

SUMMER SEMESTER 2026
DESIGN STUDIO 1

TYPOLOGICAL STUDIO_

THE PLAN AS A CITY THE CITY AS A PLAN

IOUD - Institute Of Urban Design
825106 PJ Entwerfen 1

Instructors:

Univ.-Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Dr. Peter Trummer
Janna Eberharter, MArch
Luca Zanarini, MArch

Meetings:

EVERY THURSDAY
10:00-18:00
studio sessions at the institute



INTRO_

The design studio investigates architectural typologies as spatial systems and explores their hybridization. Rather than beginning with program or scale, the studio starts with the floor plan as an analytical and generative tool.

Through a combination of formal analysis, precedent studies using diagrams as well as practical design exercises, students will develop large-scale hybrid structures embedded within the urban fabric of a city block. The project evolves from two-dimensional reasoning toward three-dimensional architectural form, where spatial and volumetric consequences emerge directly from plan logic.

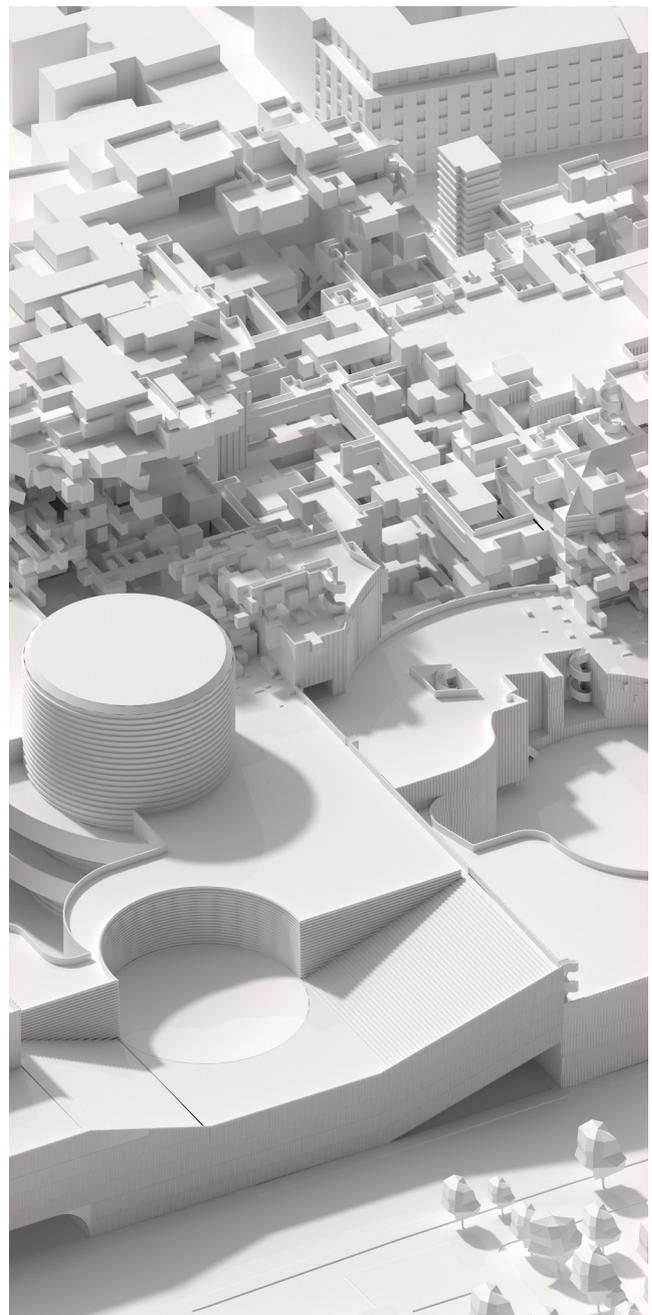
ABSTRACT_

Typology is not a catalogue of building types, but a framework for understanding spatial organization. Each typology operates as a rule-based system: it defines relationships between access and restriction, center and periphery, repetition and exception, public and private domains.

This seminar treats typologies as spatial machines. By carefully analyzing precedent floor plans, students identify the underlying principles that structure architectural form. These principles are abstracted into diagrams and used as focal points for hybridization. Hybridization in this studio is understood as the deliberate superimposition and negotiation of multiple typological systems within one architectural object.

The objective is not collage, nor aesthetic juxtaposition, but the construction of a coherent yet internally complex order.

Artificial intelligence is introduced as a tool for variation and iteration. It serves to expand the field of possible configurations, while students remain responsible for critical selection, refinement and conceptual clarity. The studio ultimately asks: What happens when distinct spatial logics coexist within one continuous plan? How do urban structures emerge when conflicting systems are forced to co-operate simultaneously?



PROCESS OVERVIEW_

The semester begins with typological analysis. Each student selects one precedent and redraws a representative floor plan. The focus lies in identifying structural principles: circulation systems, spatial hierarchies, repetition, spatial sequences, void strategies and edge conditions. These are translated into clear analytical diagrams.

In the second phase, students form groups and combine different typologies. Through diagrammatic operations like overlaying, shifting, scaling, subtracting and fragmenting a series of hybrid plan studies is being developed. All tools may be used to generate variations, but every proposal must be critically evaluated and redrawn to ensure spatial legibility and coherence.

From this iterative process, each group selects a hybrid logic and develops it into a large-scale floor plan. The project is conceived as an urban fragment organized through a continuous plan rather than as a collection of separate buildings. Emphasis lies on internal organization: sequences, thresholds, adjacencies, spatial intensities and gradients.

Three-dimensional development follows after a floor plan logic is fully articulated. Sections, volumetric studies and massing models derive from the plan. Architectural form is understood as the spatial consequence of structural decisions made in plan.

The project is situated within a defined urban site which serves as a contextual framework and boundary condition, but primary focus remains on internal typological organization rather than contextual image or facade expression. Urban scale is addressed through density, footprint, access systems and structural coherence.

The final project presents a hybrid architectural object in which multiple typological systems operate simultaneously within one unified spatial order.

URBAN SITE_

The specific site for the studio project will be revealed and formally introduced during the semester, providing students with the contextual framework and conditions necessary to develop their hybrid typological designs.



ORGANIZATION_

The studio will place particular emphasis on the floor plan, as it is the representational tool that is especially compatible when discussing architectural typologies. Each student will individually analyze floor plans of their precedents and present their work.

Once a library of precedents is established, students continue in groups of two. The objective is to ensure each student gains experience modeling and communicating their work through drawings, renderings and analysis/diagrams.

Meetings will be held as studio days. This means you will spend the entire day at the institute working on your project. There will be dedicated slots for individual desk crits as well as continuous possibility of feedback and discussion throughout the day. Attendance is important, as it will count towards your final grade.

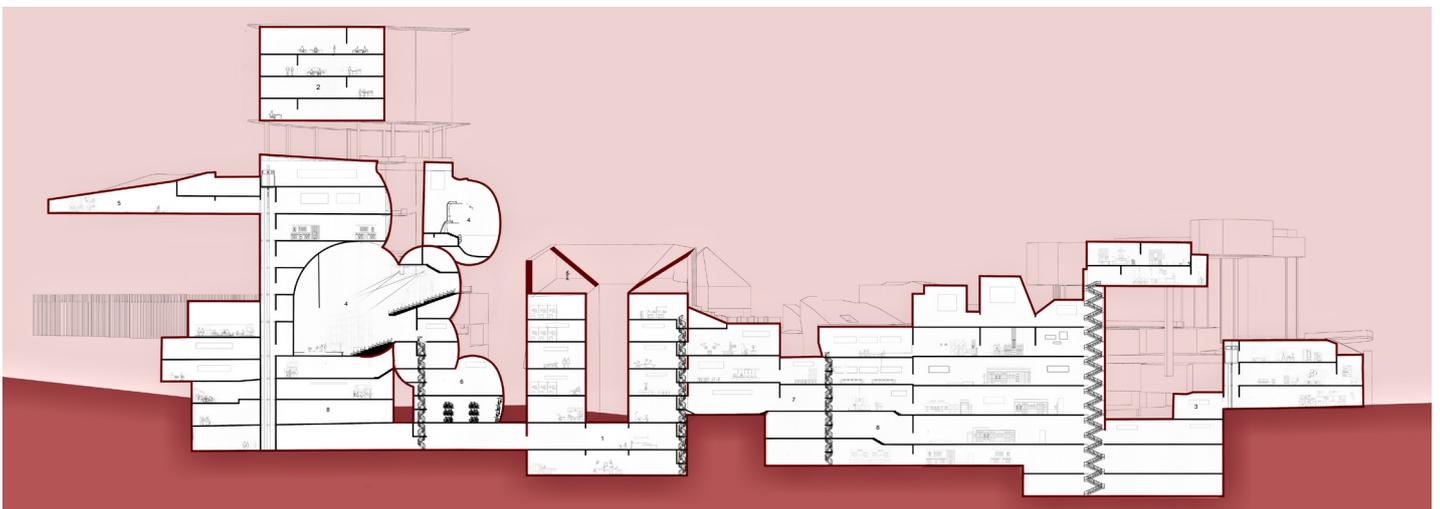
General attendance is mandatory. A minimum attendance of 80% of all course sessions is required. If a student is absent without excuse twice, the course will be graded as failed.

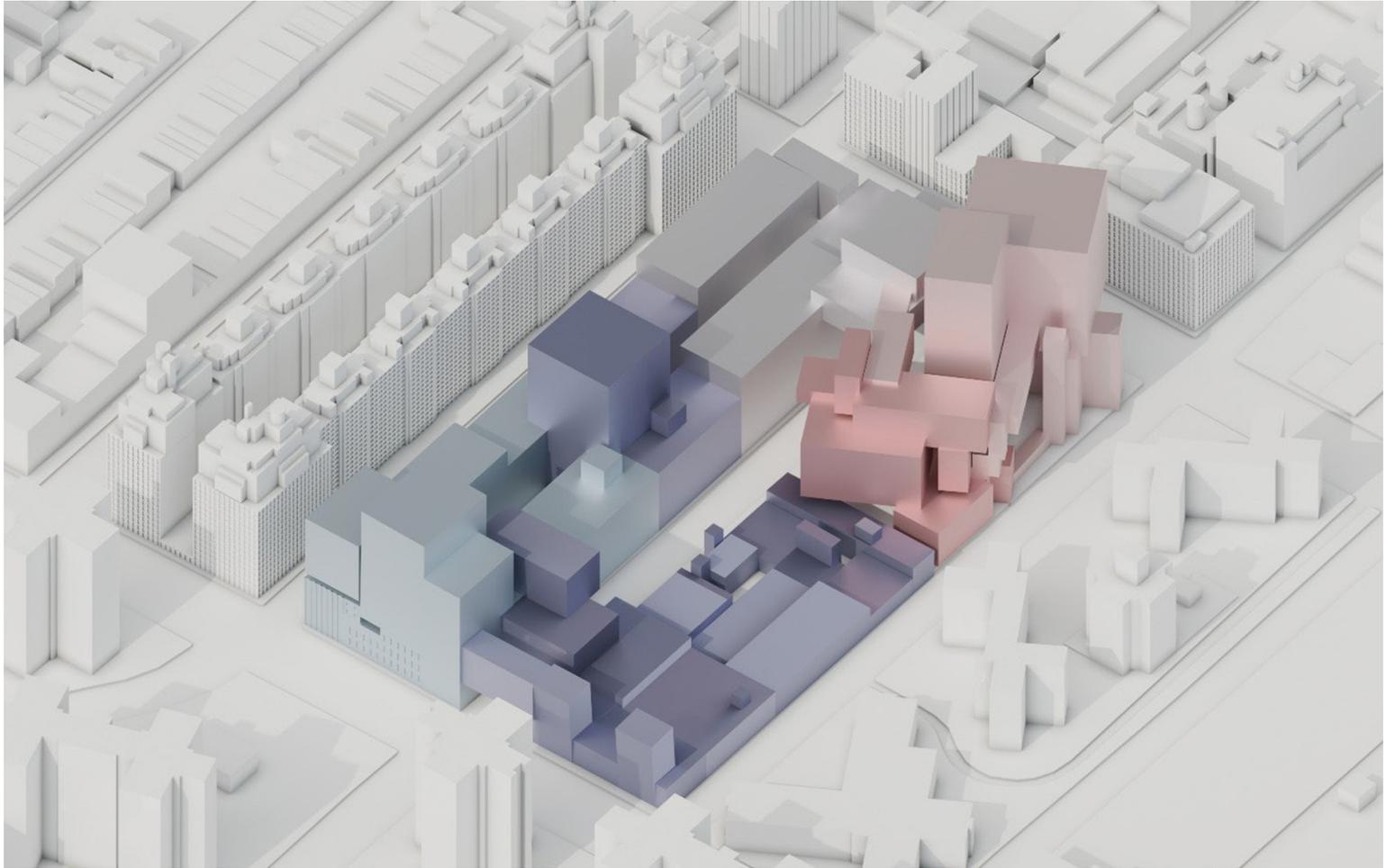
METHODOLOGY_

The studio will put a focus on the development of a design project supported by a strong foundation in analysis and theory.

The use of generative tools (AI) will be incorporated into the process throughout. Students will produce multiple iterations of their work and are expected to critically evaluate and justify their choices by articulating clear arguments for why one version may be more effective or appropriate than another.

Throughout the course, students will not only engage in the design process but also acquire essential skills in 2D drawings (Rhino + Illustrator), rendering (Blender), 3D modeling (Rhino) as well as visual representation. These technical abilities will be complemented by a theoretical foundation allowing students to create designs that are conceptually grounded in the discourse of architecture. Students will be introduced to 3D printing as an integral method for representing both massing studies and floor plans in physical form.





SEMESTER PREVIEW_
/ Pin-Up after every phase

PHASE 1 (Individual Work)

- analysis and redrawing of precedent floor plans and typologies
- creation of diagrams to extract spatial rules and organizational logic
- remodeling the precedent in 3D (Rhino)

PHASE 2 (Group Work)

- development of formal diagrams for multiple typologies
- comparative typological studies to understand structural principles
- investigation of interactions between distinct spatial systems
- iterative process of testing, refining and negotiating hybrid solutions

PHASE 3 (Group Work)

- synthesis of hybrid typologies into a single coherent floor plan
- design of a large-scale hybrid building or urban fragment

PHASE 4 (Group Work)

- developing a 3D massing of the urban hybrid block
- production of 3D massing and floor plan models, including 3D printing
- articulation of design decisions and final presentation with diagrams, drawings and models

we meet
Thursday, 5th march,
1 PM
at IOUD

looking forward to seeing you!

following meetings every
thursday, 10AM - 6PM at the institute

DATES_

Thu. 05.03
Thu. 12.03.
Thu. 19.03
Thu. 26.03.

EASTER BREAK

Thu. 16.04.
Thu. 23.04
Thu. 30.04.
Thu. 07.05.
Wed. 13.05. (online)
Thu. 21.05.
Thu. 28.05.
Wed. 03.06. (online)
Thu. 11.05.
Thu. 18.05.

25.05. FINALS WEEK (TBA.)